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March 1, 2024

## VIA ECF

Hon. Katherine Polk Failla United States District Judge United States District Court Southern District of New York 40 Foley Square, Room 2103 New York, NY 10007



RE: Huzhou Chuangtai Rongyuan Investment Management Partnership et al v. Qin; No. 1:21-cv-09221-KPF Request of Third-Party Duo "Emma" Liu to Seal Documents

## Dear Judge Failla:

Pursuant to Section 9(c)(ii) of Your Honor's Individual Rules of Practice in Civil Cases and the parties' Stipulated Protective Order dated January 3, 2023, Dkt. No. 92 (the "Confidentiality Order"), which also covers discovery of third-parties, third-party "Emma" Duo Liu ("Ms. Liu") writes to respectfully request that the Court permit the sealing of Petitioners' February 29, 2024 letter and Exhibit A (ECF No. 400 and 400-1).

A party seeking to seal a document needs to address the presumption in favor of public access to judicial documents. *See, e.g., Lugosch v. Pyramid Co. of Onondaga*, 435 F.3d 110, 119-20 (2d Cir. 2006). And any redaction or sealing of a court filing needs to be narrowly tailored to serve whatever purpose justifies the redaction or sealing and must be otherwise consistent with the presumption in favor of public access to judicial documents. *Id.* 

The Court must balance this common law presumption of access against competing interests, including "the privacy interests of those resisting disclosure." *Lugosch*, 435 F.3d at 120 (quoting *United States v. Amodeo*, 71 F.3d 1044, 1050 (2d Cir. 1995)). Thus, the issue is whether "the privacy interests of the [moving party] outweigh the presumption of public access." *GoSMiLE*, 769 F. Supp. 2d at 649-50.

Given the nature of this matter (a private matter to collect a judgment from Respondent Qin) and the fact that Ms. Liu is not a judgment-debtor in this action, but merely a third-party whose private affairs are being dragged into this dispute and given the ongoing criminal investigation about which the Court has been informed, we submit that there is a more than sufficient basis to seal Petitioners' February 29, 2024 letter and Exhibit A (ECF No. 400 and 400-1) thereof, as they contain confidential information of the kind that is deserving of protection and restricting public access, references documents already sealed in the matter. Therefore, third-

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party Ms. Liu respectfully requests that the Court grant this request. We note that for presumably similar reasons, various other docket entries in this case have been sealed.

In the event that the Court were to deny this request, Ms. Liu requests a Court conference at the Court's earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Downs

Counsel

**PFD** 

To: All parties of record via ECF

Application GRANTED. The Clerk of Court is directed to seal docket entry 400, viewable to the Court and the parties only.

The Clerk of Court is further directed to terminate the pending motion at docket entry 407.

Dated: March 4, 2024

New York, New York

SO ORDERED.

HON. KATHERINE POLK FAILLA UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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